

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HAVANA 02253 01 OF 02 030029Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 SY-05 MCT-02
/086 W

-----064072 030101Z /14

O R 022320Z AUG 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2726
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 HAVANA 2253

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS CU
SUBJ: CUBANS HIT HARD AT CIA

REF: HAVANA 2172

1. SUMMARY: CUBANS, IN HAVANA WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL, HIT HARD AT CIA, DENOUNCING ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS DIRECTED AGAINST FIDEL CASTRO, RAUL CASTRO AND CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ IN PERIOD 1959 TO 1976. DIVERSE SUBVERSIVE ACTIONS AGAINST CUBA ALSO CITED. CUBANS CLAIM THAT CIA HAS ATTEMPTED TO KILL MENGISTU, HAD "KNOWLEDGE OF AND PARTICIPATED" IN ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AND THAT ORLANDO LETELIER WAS KILLED BY "CIA AGENT" MICHAEL TOWNLEY. MYTH OF CIA INVOLVEMENT IN 1976 CUBANA AIRCRAFT SABOTAGE IS MAINTAINED. CUBANS, THUS FAR, HOWEVER, HAVE TREAD LIGHTLY ON QUESTION OF CIA PHYSICAL ACTIONS AGAINST CUBA UNDER CARTER ADMINISTRATION, THOUGH THEY HAVE CITED CIA "LIES" ON SHABA AND SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS. CUBANS HAVE NOT YET CRITICIZED USINT. END SUMMARY.

2. FOR SECOND DAY RUNNING, "YOUTH ACCUSES IMPERIALISM TRIBUNAL"
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HAVANA 02253 01 OF 02 030029Z

OF HAVANA WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL, AUGUST 2, FEATURES CUBAN CONDEMNATIONS OF ALLEGED CIA ACTIONS AGAINST CUBA AND CUBAN LEADERS. ACCUSATIONS ARE FORMULATED BY PRESENT POLITICAL ("COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY") PRISONERS, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR DOUBLE AGENTS, AND REHABILITATED COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES. ACTIONS ALLEGEDLY ORDERED OR "ENCOURAGED" BY CIA INCLUDE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS AGAINST FIDEL CASTRO, RAUL CASTRO, AND CARLOS RAFAEL

RODRIGUEZ, ESPIONAGE DURING CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS (UNDER ALLEGED ORDERS OF RELEASED AMCIT POLITICAL PRISONER FRANK EMMICH - OTHER AMCIT POLITICAL PRISONERS SIGNIFICANTLY HAVE NOT YET BEEN MENTIONED), INFILTRATIONS, MURDERS, AND KIDNAPPINGS OF CUBANS, ATTACKS ON CUBAN OVERSEAS MISSIONS, AND 1976 SABOTAGE OF CUBANA DE AVIACION AIRCRAFT. ACCUSATIONS NAME SCORES OF ALLEGED CIA AGENTS, MAINLY CUBANS - BOTH FORMER RESIDENTS AND EXILES.

(COMMENT: MANY OF NAMES APPEAR IN GRANMA, AUGUST 2, AND PRE-SUMABLY MORE WILL APPEAR IN AUGUST 3 EDITION. PURPOSE OF ALLEGED CIA AGENT NAME DISCLOSURES, PARADING OF DOUBLE AGENTS, AND ACCOUNTS OF RECRUITING BY CIA AGENTS EVEN IN AMERICAN EMBASSY BUILDING (PRIOR TO 1961) IS PRESUMABLY AIMED AT: A) PROMOTING VIGILANCE AMONG CUBAN POPULATION AGAINST COLLECTORS OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND MILITARY INFORMATION AND B) INTIMIDATING CUBAN EXILE POPULATION. CUBAN-DIRECTED NATURE OF TRIBUNAL IS EVIDENT IN FACT THAT PROCEEDINGS ARE TELEVISED ONLY IN SPANISH AND ONLY SMALL NUMBER OF FESTIVAL DELEGATES CAN FIT INTO TRIBUNAL HALL TO HEAR TRANSLATED PROCEEDINGS.)

3. MOST DRAMATIC EVENT OF AUGUST 1, WAS TESTIMONY OF CUBAN STATE SECURITY OFFICIAL NICOLAS ALBERTO SIRGADO ROS, A DOUBLE AGENT WHO ALLEGEDLY SERVED ON CIA PAYROLL IN HAVANA FOR TEN YEARS UNTIL 1976. (COMMENT: SIRGADO'S CASE WAS MENTIONED, WITHOUT CITING HIS NAME, IN CASTRO'S OCTOBER 1976 SPEECH AFTER SABOTAGE OF CUBANA AIRCRAFT.) SIRGADO AND CUBAN PROSECUTORS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 HAVANA 02253 01 OF 02 030029Z

LIKE CASTRO IN 1976, SUGGESTED THAT CIA REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON FIDEL CASTRO TRAVEL PLANS AT TIME OF 1976 BARBADOS SABOTAGE WAS EFFORT, ONCE AGAIN, TO ENGINEER ASSASSINATION OF CUBAN LEADER. (COMMENT: ALLEGED CIA ASSISTANCE IN CUBAN EXILES' ATTEMPTS TO INFILTRATE CUBA IN 1974 TO ASSASSINATE CASTRO AND IN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS IN CHILE IN 1971 WERE OTHER MOST RECENT ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS CITED BY OTHER "WITNESSES".) SIRGADO SHOWED BRICK AND STONE CIA SPY CACHES, CIPHER AND MICRO-WRITING EQUIPMENT, TRANSMITTING DEVICE FOR BUGGING OFFICE OF OSMANY CIENFUEGOS - SECRETARY OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, AND ROLEX WATCH ALLEGED AWARED HIM BY HENRY KISSINGER AS RECOGNITION OF JOB WELL-DONE. SIRGADO STATED THAT HE WORKED WITH CIA AGENTS ALAN MORRIS, JOSEPHY CYBULSKY, AND MIKE ACKERMAN ("A RUSSIAN ZIONIST").

4. CUBANS OPENED TRIBUNAL PROCEEDINGS, AUGUST 2, WITH STATEMENT THAT CIA HAS PARTICIPATED IN ASSASSINATIONS OF MOST WORLD LEADERS IN LAST TWO DECADES. MOST INTERESTING SPECIFIC ALLEGATION, WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN DESCRIBED IN DETAIL AS OF NOON, AUGUST 2, IS THAT CIA ATTEMPTED TO KILL ETHIOPIAN LEADER MENGISTU HAILE MARIAM. (COMMENT: WE RECALL RECENT ADDIS REPORTING ON VARIOUS ATTEMPTS ON MENGISTU'S LIFE.)

CUBANS, PLAYING ON THEME OF CIA "FALSIFICATION" OF SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS AND SHABA SITUATION, ALSO CLAIMED THAT AGENCY HAS LIED ABOUT ALLEGED CUBAN ROLE IN KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. CUBANS SAY THEY WILL "PROVE" THAT KENNEDY WAS ASSASSINATED WITH "KNOWLEDGE AND PARTICIPATION" OF CIA. (COMMENT: CUBAN "EVIDENCE" WILL BE SUMMARIZED BY SEPTEL WHEN PRESENTED. PRESUMABLY, EXPOSE IS DESIGNED TO COINCIDE WITH OPENING OF CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON ASSASSINATION.)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HAVANA 02250 02 OF 02 030041Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 SY-05 HA-05 MCT-02
(ISO) W

-----035082 102346Z /14

O R 022320Z AUG 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2727
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 HAVANA 2253

5. IN ADDITION

TO TRIBUNAL (AND REPEATED, SEPARATE APPEARANCES OF AGENCY DEFECTORS PHILIP AGEE AND JAMES AND ELSIE WILCOTT-SEE REFTEL - AND US-ARGENTINE DUAL NATIONAL MERCENARY GUSTAVO MANUEL GRILLO WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANGOLA-LED DESCRIPTION OF CIA ACTIVITIES IN THAT COUNTRY), CUBANS HAVE MOUNTED EXHIBIT NEAR HABANA LIBRE HOTEL OF PHOTOS AND ESPIONAGE PARAPHERNALIA AND WEAPONS UNDER TITLE "CIA - SUBVERSION AND CRIME". EXHIBIT FEATURES FILM OF CASTRO'S OCTOBER 1976 SPEECH ACCUSING CIA OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CUBANA AIRCRAFT SABOTAGE. ANOTHER MORE RECENT CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY HEDGES ON CUBANA AIRCRAFT ACCUSATION, SAYING ONLY THAT CIA "ENCOURAGED" AIRCRAFT SABOTAGE. SAME FILM, HOWEVER, STATES BALDLY THAT ORLANDO LETELIER WAS KILLED BY "CIA AGENT" MICHAEL TOWNLEY.

6. COMMENT: ATTACK ON CIA IS EXTREME AND VIRULENT - AND PRESUMABLY IS NOT DIVORCED FROM FILATOV AND OTHER ESPIONAGE

CASES IN USSR. CUBANS HAVE BEEN CAREFUL SO FAR, HOWEVER,
NOT TO BURN THEIR BRIDGES TO PRESENT ADMINISTRATION. THEY HAVE
NOT CITED PHYSICAL ACTIONS AGAINST CUBA SINCE 1976 AND, AT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HAVANA 02250 02 OF 02 030041Z

MOST, THEIR STATEMENTS HAVE CITED ONLY RECENT CIA "LIES" (ON SHABA
AND SOVIET RPT SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS). NONETHELESS, MEDIA
COVERAGE OF CIA HEARINGS PROVIDES MOST NEGATIVE IMAGE YET PRE-
SENTED HERE OF US SINCE OPENING OF USINT. AT MINIMUM, CUBANS
WISH TO LOWER EXPECTATIONS OF POPULACE FOR ANY RAPID PROGRESS
TOWARD NORMALIZATION WITH US AND PRESUMED EASED LIVING CONDI-
TIONS WHICH MIGHT RESULT. AT WORST, CIA ATTACH AND CASTRO'S JULY
26 SPEECH MAY REFLECT MORE FUNDAMENTAL REASSESSMENT OF CUBA'S
INTEREST IN NORMALIZATION WITH US. OUR OWN ESTIMATE, BASED ON
STILL-EXTANT MODERATION IN CUBAN PUBLIC CHARACTERIZATION OF
PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IS THAT CASTRO, WHILE LESS HOPEFUL, STILL
WANTS TO LEAVE DOOR OPEN.

LANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HAVANA02253
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780328-0530
Format: TEL
From: HAVANA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808108/aaaadmya.tel
Line Count: 192
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ca128b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 HAVANA 2172
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1564793
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CUBANS HIT HARD AT CIA
TAGS: PINS, CU, US, CIA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ca128b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014